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Budget and Finance Committee receives report on Indirect Cost Training

WINDOW ROCK – The Budget and Finance Committee received a report on Friday regarding indirect cost training that will be provided to Navajo Nation division directors and program managers that receive grants and awards from federal funding.

According to Office of Management and Budget executive director Dominic Beyal, the training is intended to educate upper management personnel the purpose and function of IDC.

"The IDC is to reimburse the [Navajo Nation] General Fund for costs supporting a program's activity, such as OMB, Office of the Controller, personnel, Department of Justice, etc. and this training will reinforce the IDC policies we currently use," said Beyal.

The IDC rate for FY2013 was established by the Navajo Nation at 16.95 percent and has yet to be determined for FY2014. The Nation is entitled to collect IDC recovery costs from the federal government, which applies to federal grants, contracts, and agreements.

In agreement with the IDC training, BFC vice chair Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Ts'ah Bii Kin) said it is time to clear the confusion regarding IDC's.

"It is very important to get all the programs on the same page that deal with IDC's and convey the responsibilities they should be adhering to, and this training is a step towards that goal," said Delegate Nez.

BFC chair Council Delegate LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) said the BFC would do everything within their authority to assist with the training and hope that its potential success will be a model for future IDC trainings.

At the conclusion of the BFC meeting, Beyal said there has been no date set for the training, but they intend to have it in the latter part of Jan. 2014. The training would be about 1-2 days and the venue is still to be decided, however Beyal said the training would take place within Window Rock.

BFC Voted 4-0 to accept the report.